# St. Monica Catholic Church

September 14, 2025

**Feast of the Exultation of the Holy Cross** 



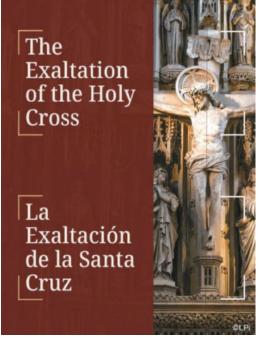
## THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

010

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man." For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. - Jn 3:13, 17

Jesús dijo a Nicodemo: "Nadie ha subido al cielo sino el Hijo del hombre, que bajó del cielo y está en el cielo. Porque Dios no envió a su Hijo para condenar al mundo, sino para que el mundo se salvara por él". - Jn 3, 13. 17

Leccionario II © 1987 Comisión Episcopal de Pastoral Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano.



### **Weekend Mass Times**

Saturday Vigil 4:30 PM Sunday 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

### **Daily Mass Times**

Tuesday - Friday 8:30 AM 1st Saturday of the Month 8:30 AM

### Reconciliation

Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:00-8:25 AM Saturdays 3:15 PM to 4:15 PM Or by appointment

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

First Fridays 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Other Fridays 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

#### **Our Lady of Sorrows Rosary**

First Friday of the Month 8:00 AM

Parish Office: 386-325-9777; 114 S 4th Street, Palatka, FL 32177

Parish Email Address: saintmonicacatholic@gmail.com; Fr. Jared's Email: frjared@stmonicacatholicchurch.com Visit us on the web at: www.stmonicacatholicchurch.com

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM—4:30 PM; Friday 9:00 AM—12:00 PM



		INTENTIONS	
Tuesday	Sept 16	+ Helen Klemash	Requested by: Mary Crawford
Wednesday	Sept 17	+ Ralph Buchanan	Requested by: Mike and Pam Langford
		+ Alick Hardie	Requested by: Kathy and David Kudlo
		+ Helen Klemash	Requested by: Joe and Mary Iovino
Thursday	Sept 18	Janus Soulis	Requested by: Rita Smith
Friday	Sept 19	+ Vincent Martinez	Requested by: Rita Lambert
		+ Darla Bohn	Requested by: Kathy and David Kudlo
		+ John Carr	Requested by: Karen Lee
Saturday 4:30 PM	Sept 20	Buzzy Wiseman	Requested by: Loretta Hutchinson
Sunday 8:00 AM	Sept 21	Living and Deceased Parishioners	
Sunday 11:00 AM	Sept 21	+ Alexander Hardie	Requested by: Nick and Natalie Winiewicz



### **Birthdays this Week:**

Barbara Gill Bailey Dettman Rena Gosselin Sandy Woods Lori Malhoit
Debra Coyle Linda Cleveland Catherine Sheridan Roy Dorsett MillieMae Wise
Amy Grout Zoey Romer Dr. David C. Cummings Mike Foster

### Week at a Glance

# Tuesday, September 16th:Friday, September 19th:8:00-8:25 AM: Confession8:30 AM: Mass8:30 AM: Mass9-11 AM: Eucharistic

11:15 AM: Navigating the Nicene Adoration

Creed Class (Parish Hall) Saturday, September 20th:

# **Wednesday, September 17th:** 8:30 AM: Mass

5:30 PM: Bible Study (Library)

6:00 PM: Choir Rehearsal (Church)

### Thursday, September 18th:

8:00-8:25 AM: Confession 8:30 AM: Mass

9 AM-12 PM: Food Pantry (Hall) 6:45 PM: Navigating the Nicene

Creed Class (Parish Hall)

ATTENTION: The Diocese of St. Augustine treats all allegations of sexual misconduct seriously and deals with all allegations in a prompt, confidential, and thorough manner. To Report Abuse, call the police or the Department of Children and Families at (800) 962-2873. Or call the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at (903) 208-6979 or email inquiries@dosafl.com. To report abuse by a bishop, call (800) 276-1562

or visit www.reportbishopabuse.org

### **Next Weekend Ministry Schedule:**

### Saturday, September 20th at 4:30 PM

Ushers: Kellie Thropp, Ellen Fitzhenry EM (Body of Christ): Cris David

EM (Precious Blood): Cathy Maus, Joyce Fitzsimmons

Lectors: Mary Lawnicki (1st), Helen Muir (2nd)

Altar Server: David Aptt

#### Sunday, September 21st at 8:00 AM

Ushers: Jim and Karen McMillan EM (Body of Christ): Cheryl Carr

EM (Precious Blood): Rick Carr, Kevin Donnelly

**Lectors:** Eric Gray (1st), Lynne Gray (2nd) **Altar Server:** Sam and Nick Bowman

#### Sunday, September 21st at 11:00 AM

Ushers: Bill Black, Mary Shackleford EM (Body of Christ): Ted Bianculli

EM (Precious Blood): Jan Schneider, Mary Mundy Lectors: Charlene Shepard (1st), Dr. Marcia Parker (2nd)

**Altar Server:** Walt Egan

If you would like to sign up for the Traveling Vocations Crucifix, please call the Parish Office or scan the QR code to the right!





Please call the office if you or someone you know needs to be added to the prayer list. Please note that all prayer list requests will be left on the list for 6 weeks, unless the person has a chronic illness, is undergoing

treatment for cancer, or has another serious condition. If this is the case, please let the Parish Office know: 386-325-9777.

Prayer requests can also be written in our Parish Book of Intentions at the ramp entrance.

10 AM-12 PM: GriefShare

3:15-4:15 PM: Confession

Sunday, September 21st:

9:20-10:20 AM: CCF and

9:30 AM: OCIA (Office)

Youth Ministry (Parish Hall)

4:30 PM: Mass

8:00 AM: Mass

11:00 AM: Mass

(Parish Hall)

Joseph Dame	Buzzy Wiseman	Darlene Sweat	John Skalnik	James Nicholas	Diana & Tommy Downey
Marilynn Gauthier	William Parker	Fred Lininger	Christine Taylor	Larry Beaton	Jane Twardowski-Otten
Greg Bodalski	Diane Kinnon	Carlos Azula	Mike Foster	Wayne Short	Alex de Guzman
Rick Filer	Linus Wiesner	Joan Zoranski	Brenda Snyder	Tom Porwoll	Carlos Avella



Dear Sisters & Brothers in Christ,

Last Sunday at the Canonization Mass for St. Carlo Acutis and St. Pier Giorgio Frassati, Pope Leo XIV said, "Just as no one is born a champion, no one is born a saint.

It is daily training in love." How fitting as we begin our third letter on training to be a saint. Last time, I shared some practices as we wake up to start off with a habit of discipline and prayer. This time, I want to offer some suggestions for the other end of our day: bedtime.

First, as we wind down for bed, we must be careful of our posture as we go to prayer. Don't pray in a comfy chair or your bed. I say several things regularly, but one of my favorites is: "Horizontal prayer always ends in sleep" mostly because it has happened to me too many times in the past. Choose a place, maybe beside your bed, possibly on your knees by your bed, or some other suitable place.

In the morning, we offer our day to God; the tradition of the Church is in the evening, we offer thanks to God. Now, there are many prayers of thanksgiving we could pray. I want to recommend a prayer method I believe I may have shared in the past as a suggestion. I am offering two versions of the Examen Prayer, originally crafted by St. Ignatius of Loyola. The Examen Prayer is sort of like a short form of an examination of conscience with extra steps.

#### Model One:

- A. **Thanksgiving** Place yourself in God's presence. Give thanks for God's great love for you. (Give thanks!)
- B. **Intention** Pray for the grace to understand how God is acting in your life. (Ask for help!)
- C. **Examination** Review your day recall specific moments and your feelings at the time. (Reflect!)
- D. **Contrition** Reflect on what you did, said, or thought in those instances. Were you drawing closer to God, or further away? (Say Sorry!)
- E. **Hope/Resolution** Look toward tomorrow think of how you might collaborate more effectively with God's plan. Be specific and conclude with the "Our Father." (Decide!)

#### OR

#### Model Two:

- A. **Gratitude**—Begin by placing yourself in the presence of God and thanking Him for the blessings of the day. Be specific.
- B. Request for Light—Ask the Holy Spirit to allow you to see yourself as God sees you.
- C. Actions & Attitudes—Evaluate your actions & attitudes considering how God would view them.
- D. **Chart Your Course**—If you have found peace in your actions and attitudes, commit to staying the course. If you find that you have failed, commit to doing something differently tomorrow.
- E. **Energy/Enthusiasm**—Ask for God's grace to follow through joyfully on your plan, and for the gift of encouragement as you continue your earthly journey.

Rely on Our Redeemer,

Fr. Jared S. De fer

DAILY

**EXAMEN** 

# Grow Strong in Your Faith With Carley Romer

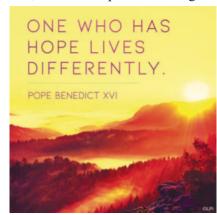
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

Two weeks ago I gave a little intro to my discussion on hope. I mentioned some goals I have for the end of this series. The first step for reaching our goals is to grow in hope ourselves. If we want to help others, we must first have hope ourselves. Jesus once told us that we must remove the stick from our eye before removing it from others. Perhaps you need to remove a stick or perhaps you need to add something to your life. I'm going to give an example from my life where I had to grow in hope.

Think of a line where one side is hope and the other is despair. Think for a moment about where you end up on the line. You're probably not going to go entirely in one direction or another. Likely, there have been points in your life when you were closer to one direction than the other. I'd say that I'm probably leaning pretty far toward hope right now, but there's still more I can work on in that area. For the most part, I will believe that God's plan is perfect. But there are times I can't help wondering. Of course, wondering is perfectly natural. The problems occur when I try to take things into my own hands. I remember a time when I was kneeling in Adoration talking to God about something very important to me at that moment (I have almost no clue what it was now). I was having a bit of an argument with Him. I came up with excuse after excuse, but after but. (Just ask my family and friends, I'm well known for needing the last word.) As I tried to obtain the answer I wanted, I remembered one of the most important kinds of prayer, those in which we simply listen. I closed my eyes, took a deep breath, and repeated the words at the end of the Divine Mercy Chaplet, "Jesus, I trust in you." I ended that prayer with a smile and complete trust in God's plan. And then, I listened. I guess it worked because I honestly don't remember what I was praying about. In our hopes for Heaven, we must learn to resign our will and replace it with God's.

This is just one example of how I was trying to take things into my own hands. I've done it so many times before. I've thought a lot about my need for more hope in my life since this jubilee year began. In fact, I asked our priest here to give

a talk on hope and trust in our youth group last year. Unfortunately though, I missed it. However, I have read some things and heard some talks on it since then. Hope is a really interesting virtue. The more life you live and the more problems you face, the more your hope will be put to the test. When we come out of these trials triumphant, our hope will be stronger. If we come out of these trials with despair in our heart, hope is not lost. Through prayer and trust in God's plan, we can regain hope. I'm sure there are some of you who know the great joy you can experience when you push despair out of your heart and replace it with hope. Think of the satisfaction you get when you finally yank a big weed out of your garden that you've been wrestling with for several minutes. This joy will be even greater! You will have ripped a weed out of the garden within your soul. And now, you can replace it with the beautiful flower of hope.



There are many things to help us plant that flower within our soul. First, pray. It probably won't happen instantly. You must continue praying. God and the saints will gladly help you gain or regain hope. This is like preparing the garden for the new flower. You are tilling the soil and making it ready. Maybe you need a little help in planting the flower. It is very beneficial to talk with family, friends, or your priest when you're going through something. Stories of the saints can also help us. I'm going to talk about one of those saints in my next bulletin article. Lastly, plant that seed of hope. With the help of the heavenly gardener, you will watch it grow! I hope you have a blessed and hopeful week!

With peace,

Carley

### St. Monica Events and Updates

# **Emergency Second Collection This Weekend for Starving Families in the Holy Land**

Bishop Erik Pohlmeier has asked every parish to take up a special collection by Sept 30th to aid

families suffering in the Holy Land. Our parish will take up this second collection at all Masses this weekend. The Holy Father has warned with sorrow that families in the Holy Land are starving. The Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) —working closely with local Church leadership and Archbishop Pierbattista Pizzaballa, Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem—are already on the ground providing food, shelter, medical care, hygiene supplies, and emotional support. Your gift will be directed through these trusted Catholic agencies, ensuring it reaches those most in need. Please join us in prayer and generosity as we respond with Christ's compassion to our brothers and sisters.

### Knights of Columbus Breakfast Fundraiser Next Sunday, Sept 21st!

the Hungry

Our breakfast fundraisers are starting up again next Sunday! All are welcome to join us for breakfast put on by the Knights of Columbus in the Parish Hall after the 8 AM Mass next Sunday, Sept 21st. The menu will include: sausage gravy and biscuits, sausage patties, scrambled eggs, fruit, coffee, tea, and juice. We ask for \$7 for adults, teens, and pre-teens, and \$2 for kids age 10 and under. The funds collected at the breakfast will go towards worthy causes that are supported by the Knights.

We hope to see you there!

# Catholic but not Confirmed?



Learn More...

Adult Confirmation classes starting soon! Call or text Karen Lee: (386) 972-0316



### **Spaghetti Dinner to Benefit CCF**

This Saturday, Sept 13th from 5-7 PM in the Parish Hall

Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. We are serving regular spaghetti or alfredo, both with meat or without. We will also have a self-serve salad bar and dessert table with a drink! Eat-in or take-out is available, and cash, checks, or credit/debit cards are accepted. We hope to see you there!

# Weekly Offering Thank You For Your Generosity!

### August 30-31, 2025

Offertory	\$4,712.63
Children's Gifts	\$26.25
Youth Ministry	\$75.00
Building and Restoration	\$108.00
Food Pantry	\$105.00
Candles	\$132.90

### September 6-7, 2025

Offertory	\$8,123.95
Cemetery	\$2,500.00
Building and Restoration	\$890.00
Food Pantry	\$70.00
Candles	\$23.10

### **Navigating the Nicene Creed Class**



"Navigating the Nicene Creed," an adult formation class led by Fr. Jared, continues!

This week, we are back to our regular schedule of the Morning Session at 11:15 AM on Tuesday and the Evening Session at 6:45 PM on Thursday.

We hope you can join us!

### WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

### Save the Date!

Our Annual World Mission Rosary and International Dinner will take place in the Hall after the Saturday Vigil Mass on October 18th.

Please keep an eye on future bulletins for more info!

### GriefShare

St. Monica Church is starting a support group for those grieving the loss of a loved one though a program called GriefShare. Please join us starting **this** 



coming Saturday, September 20th in the church hall. Meeting time will be 10 AM till 12 Noon.

At GriefShare, you'll watch a weekly video with counsel and insights from respected grief experts and relatable personal stories—followed by a time of sharing and support. Session topics include what's normal in grief; how to handle difficult emotions; and what to do with regrets, questions, and worries.

For more information, contact Laura Hall at 386-530-9250 or call the church office at 386-325-9777.

### **Around the Diocese**



### Bishop Erik Pohlmeier Wants Your Input

Before any plans are made, Bishop Erik Pohlmeier wants to hear from you. Please review the Campaign Planning



Study Fact Sheet by clicking this link: <a href="http://bit.ly/3JsBt66">http://bit.ly/3JsBt66</a>, and then complete the online survey here: <a href="http://bit.ly/4fK3an0">http://bit.ly/4fK3an0</a> or scan the QR code to the left. If you don't have computer

access, simply call (904) 208-6976 to request a printed survey by mail (a reply envelope will be provided).

In addition, Bishop Pohlmeier has scheduled more listening sessions to hear directly from parishioners:

- North Jax Deanery: St. Patrick, Jacksonville (Parish Hall): 601 Airport Center Dr. E., Jacksonville Monday, Sept 22 (6:30-8:00 PM)
- Gainesville Deanery: St. Patrick, Gainesville (Parish Hall): 500 NE 16th Avenue, Gainesville Tuesday, Sept 23 (6:30-8:00 PM)
- St. Augustine Deanery: St. Anastasia, St. Augustine (Parish Hall): 5205 A1A S., St. Augustine Thursday, Sept 25 (6:30-8:00 PM)

All are encouraged to attend, share your thoughts, and help guide the future of our diocese.

### SOS (Support Our Seminarians) Dinner Saturday, Sept 20th at 6 PM at Bishop Baker Center, 267 St. George Street, St. Augustine



Join the Knights of Columbus, Council 611, for their annual SOS - Support Our Seminarians - Italian Favorites Dinner, all proceeds to benefit our Seminarians.

Menu includes Baked Ziti, Spaghetti, Salad, and Bread.

Our keynote speaker will be Seminarian Jacob Crowell.

### Retreat Young Adult Retreat: Hope in Communion

The Offices of Youth and Young Adult, Evangelization, and Family Life at the Diocese of St. Augustine are excited to announce a young adult retreat on Sept 26-28 at Camp Kulaqua in High Springs, FL. Join us for a weekend retreat for young adults (ages 20-35) seeking to deepen their hope in the Lord and experience the joy of community. Join us for enriching talks, time of reflection, small group discussions, outdoor activities, and the grace

of the Sacraments. Register by scanning the QR code or by visiting: <u>form.jotform.com/</u> Office Family/2025-young-adult-retreat



### **Upcoming Jubilee Year Events**

Sat, Sept 20th, 10 AM-6 PM: Jubilee of Justice

See the flyer on the next page! For details, contact Anita Hassell at (904) 899-5500 or <a href="mailto:ahassell@ccbdosa.org">ahassell@ccbdosa.org</a>

Saturday, October 11th – Jubilee of Marian Spirituality Bishop Erik Pohlmeier invites all to the National Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche on Saturday, Oct 11th from 1-5 PM for a Jubilee of Hope celebration. The day coincides with the worldwide Jubilee for Marian Spirituality in Rome and the Feast of Our Lady of La Leche. Bishop Pohlmeier will renew the consecration of the Diocese to Jesus through Mary, first made during the 2021 canonical coronation.

# St. Augustine Catholic Young Adults

# Catholic Young Adult Event This Friday, September 19th!

All Catholic young adults are invited to join St. Augustine Catholic Young Adults for faith formation and social events! It is a group of both single and married Catholics in their 20s and 30s in the greater St. Augustine area growing in faith and fellowship. Sign up for the email newsletter using the QR code and connect on social media to receive reminders for monthly Mass and brunch, Adoration and potlucks, and social events. Plan to attend Mass, Adoration, and a potluck this Friday, Sept 19th at

### 2025 Anniversary Celebration

St. Benedict the Moor at 7 PM!

Couples observing a 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th (or more) wedding anniversary between Jan 1 -Dec 31, 2025 are invited to participate in the 2025 Anniversary Celebration with Bishop Erik Pohlmeier on Saturday, Nov 8th at 1 PM. The celebration is available in-person at Our Lady Star of the Sea in Ponte Vedra Beach but will also be livestreamed for those who would like to participate virtually. Bishop Pohlmeier will facilitate a renewal of commitment to the wedding vows and impart a special blessing. Couples will also be recognized in a digital slideshow that will display names, parish, and years married. Certificates will be provided to couples along with materials and instructions for participating. A light reception will be offered after the celebration. You may register online at <a href="https://family.dosafl.com">https://family.dosafl.com</a> or by calling (904) 208-6963. The registration deadline is October 31st.

### **Healing the Pain of Abortion**

Our next Rachel's Vineyard English Retreat will be Sept 26-28, 2025. For more info, call 904-221-3232 or email rachelsvineyardjax@yahoo.com. All calls and inquiries are very confidential. Come and be restored!



# Jubilee of Justice

Come and explore the meaning of "justice" in the Catholic Church and how we can exercise justice in our everyday lives as it relates to our families, communities and the world.

# Saturday, September 20 | 10 a.m.

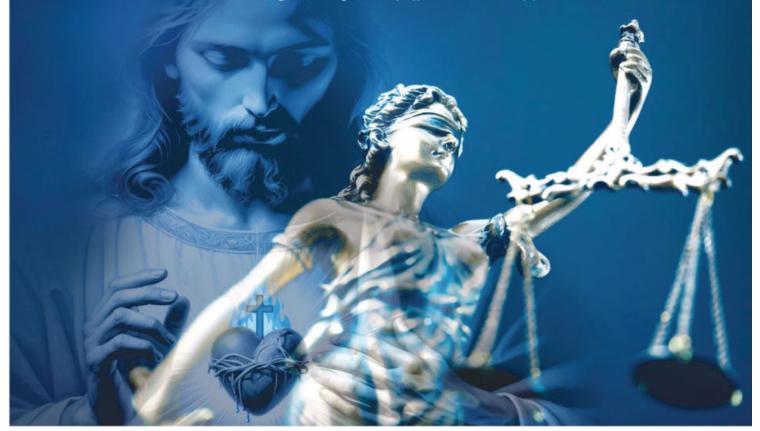
St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church | 1649 Kingsley Ave., Orange Park

### What to Expect:

- » Learn what "justice" means in the Catholic Church
- » Learn how justice is an integral part of the Jubilee Year of Hope
- » Learn about the key themes of Catholic social teaching
- » Participate in breakout sessions focusing on immigration and refugees, migrant workers, care of creation, and the death penalty

Lunch provided | Please bring a reusable coffee mug & water bottle | Closing justice-themed Mass Scan the QR Code or visit the following link to register: https://forms.office.com/r/1uX8PJaEGs





## **God Bless Putnam County District Schools!**

Dr. Marcia Parker of CCQSHS





Phone: (386) 385-5499 Fax: (386) 385-5498 Web: saverpt.com Email: saverpt@saverpt.co

Alberto G. David, D.M.D. Old Moultrie Rd. • St. Augustine 904-329-5111 Al & Chris David, Parishioners Go Gators!

CALL



Meeting the 1st Wednesday of every month

Join at kofc.org

It's all

about the bride



Diocese of St. Augustine Office of Human Life and Dignity We can help those in need created by God in His image & need protection from womb to tomb. For more info, contact: Maureen Shilkunas. Director at mshilkunas@dosafl.com 904-262-3200 Ext. 159



\$20.00 OFF New Service For Parishioners, Family and Friends with Ad or Bulletin

### **DANIEL THOMPSON BRIDALS**

Designer & Manufacturer of Fine Bridal & Evening Wear

**Bridal & Evening** Alterations BY APPOINTMENT 76

(904)547-2347

Palatka, Florida

danielthompsonbridals@gmail.com



Tues: 4pm-9pm Wed & Thurs: 11am-9pm Fri: 11am-10pm • Sat: 4pm-10pm Sun 11am-7 pm • Mon: Closed 1701 Reid Street, Palatka

& Electronic **Marine Repair** 386-983-0744 **Parishioners** 

**Full Mechanical** 

MASTERS FUNERAL HOME. INC. CREMATORY AND PALATKA

**MEMORIAL GARDENS** 

**Putnam County's Most Trusted Family** 

In Funeral Service

325-4564

www.p-smarine.com

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

GOD BLESS ST. MONICA CATHOLIC CHURCH IN PALATKA, FLORIDA

Vietnam Vet William Parker & Engineer Patrich Buenaventura



St. Monica Ladies Guild

386-328-1953

Meets 1st Tuesday of the Month-Ham All Christian Women Welcome



I. Erin Fortner

**Parishioner** 

386-937-0054 erinfortner@coldwellbanker.com





JohnEllisRealty@gmail.com www.JohnEllisRealty.com



md-medalert.com







THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS, KEEP 'EM COMING, I'M STILL FIGHTING. SINCERELY, BUZ WISEMAN. PARISHIONER

**CRG** 

CRG ARCHITECTS/PALATKA, INC. **Parishioners** 



## LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

> **CONTACT ME Rob Kennedy**

rkennedy@4LPi.com (804) 366-4838



WE'RE HIRING! AD SALES EXECUTIVE

BE YOURSELE BRING YOUR PASSION. **WORK WITH PURPOSE** 

